

TOWN OF HERNDON

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Michael L. O'Reilly
Mayor

AT HOME IN HERNDON

A summary of Town policies and activities.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

This is the first edition of "At Home in Herndon," a quarterly summary of Town policies, programs, and noteworthy resident achievements. You can find additional information and resources about Herndon on the Town's website at www.herndon-va.gov. I also encourage you to attend Town Council meetings that take place on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm at the Herndon Council Chambers building located at 765 Lynn Street in downtown. By keeping informed and participating in our community, together we can continue to preserve Herndon's unique sense of community and small Town charm while promoting a vibrant economy and business community. You can contact me and members of Town Council by calling the Town Clerk's office at 703-436-6804 or visiting the Town's website at the address above and clicking on "Town Council."

— Michael L. O'Reilly
Mayor

PUBLIC SAFETY

Silent Partner Alert – Sign Up Today

The Herndon Police Department was the first law enforcement agency in the nation to implement the Silent Partner Alert in September 2002. This public safety broadcast system enables residents to receive valuable information from the Herndon Police via e-mail, text pager, cell phone e-mail or Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs). Alerts include traffic accident delays, press releases, emergency preparedness procedures, notices of police community meetings, and wanted and missing person reports. To sign up to receive Silent Partner Alerts, go to the Town's website at www.herndon-va.gov, click on "What's New" and then "Silent Partner Alert." There is no charge for this service.

Northern Virginia Gang Task Force

Created last year by U.S. Congressman Frank R. Wolf, the task force offers a multi-jurisdictional approach to combating gang violence. It is made up of police officers and officials from Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties, Herndon, Leesburg, Manassas and Manassas Park. Members of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are also involved. Chaired by Herndon Police Chief Toussaint E. Summers Jr., the task force has netted numerous felony and misdemeanor arrests and taken many violent felons off the street. In May the task force received an additional \$350,000 in federal funding which will be used to implement education programs in school districts about the danger of gang life and mentoring sessions for children at risk. For more information, call the Herndon Police at 703-435-6846.

NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT

New Residential Over-Occupancy Policies Adopted

Over occupancy of residential dwelling units creates health and safety dangers to home occupants and their neighbors. To address these issues, a team of community inspectors is dedicated solely to the enforcement of over-occupancy. The Town Council recently adopted revisions to the Zoning Ordinance to strengthen over-occupancy policies to promote quality of life in residential neighborhoods, and reduce vehicle congestion, noise and overwhelming of public utilities. The new policies limit the number of people that can live in a home based on familial relationship and the overall size of the residence and, in most cases, prohibit additional kitchens. There are also policies that allow up to two persons who may be live-in companions to the elderly or disabled, servants or "au-pair" employees to occupy the home in addition to members of the family, as well as residents of group homes of no more than eight persons as defined by the Code of Virginia or handicapped persons as defined in the Fair Housing Act. For more information or to report an over-occupancy violation, call the Department of Community Development at 703-787-7380.

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Town Hall, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170-4637 FAX (703) 787-7325
<http://herndon-va.gov>

Day Labor

Day labor is one of the most complex issues facing Herndon. The Town has been working since 1998 to find an acceptable solution to the current informal gathering site at the 7-11 at the corner of Elden Street and Alabama Drive. One of the most difficult constraints is the availability of land in an area that will not adversely impact residential neighborhoods and pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow. Mayor O'Reilly has approached Fairfax County to see if it can be a partner in a solution by working with a non-profit group to organize a day labor site. Additionally, according to a memo to Town Council from County Executive Anthony Griffin in September 2004, a countywide safety and management strategy for the day laborer sites in the county is being developed which begins to address lack of organization and safety concerns at the sites. For more information on day labor, contact the Neighborhood Resources Department at 703-435-6800 ext. 2200.

Fortnightly Square and Harbor House Senior Center

Herndon's downtown is taking on a new shape with construction in progress of the Fortnightly Square development and the Senior Center at Herndon Harbor House, two projects encompassed by the Fortnightly Neighborhood which was approved by Town Council as an amendment to Herndon's Comprehensive Plan. The Fortnightly Neighborhood plan is to develop mixed uses in the downtown, including residential, retail, and office space, incorporating distinctively urban building designs. The Fortnightly Square development by Carr Homes features townhouses and condominiums. Ground floor commercial space with residential units above will be located along Center Street across from the Herndon Fortnightly Library.

The Herndon Harbor House Senior Center is the third and final phase of development of affordable senior housing in Herndon. The Town worked with the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority and residents for more than 18 years to make Harbor House a reality. Since the residents began living at Harbor House in 1999, they have been an invaluable asset to Herndon by their active participation in community events. The 13,000 square-foot Senior Center complements the urban design of the Fortnightly Neighborhood and the facility features a variety of services and activities for seniors, as well as community meeting space. For more information on Herndon Harbor House, call 703-904-4444.

NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS

Yard of the Month Winners

Congratulations to all of the nominees and winners of the first-ever Yard of the Month competition and their efforts to make Herndon a beautiful community. The Yard of the Month competition is part of the Cultivating Community Initiative, an umbrella program to enrich the quality of life in neighborhoods through beautification awards and activities that increase awareness of the important role residents play in maintaining the appearance and harmony of their neighborhoods. For more information on the Cultivating Community Initiative, call the Public Information Office at 703-435-6800 ext. 2010.

June

Yard of the Month

810 Mosby Hollow Drive
Phil Goetkin & Diane D'Amico

2nd Place

818 Alabama Drive
Robert Rudine

3rd Place

1254 Magnolia Lane
Robert & Patricia Cookston

July

Yard of the Month

726 Park Avenue
Stephen & Nina Joyce

2nd Place

1412 Cuttermill Court
Jeff & Jackie Johnson

3rd Place

750 Barbaralynn Place
Mijad Mujkic & Branke Nikolic

August

Yard of the Month

818 Alabama Drive
Robert Rudine

2nd Place

880 Locust Street
Francis & Melanie Warakowski

September

Yard of the Month

310 Missouri Avenue
Billy & Janice Biggs

2nd Place

707 Main Drive
R.W. Updike

3rd Place

1045 Lexus Way
Harminder Kaur

Herndon Swimmer Participated in U.S. Olympic Trials

Mason Walsh, a 2003 graduate of Herndon High School, competed in the women's 50-meter freestyle swimming semifinal competition in July to earn a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team. Mason missed qualifying for the finals by less than half a second but plans to compete again in 2008. Currently a student at Virginia Tech, Mason's team at Tech won the Big East Championship in 2004. She competed with the Herndon High School swim team, lettering in swimming four times. She holds the school record for the women's 50-meter race.